



# The Sampler

October 31, 2016

The Sampler is a monthly e-newsletter produced by the Volunteer Lake Assessment Program.

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## Web Highlights

This month's featured lake website is [Kingston Lake Association](#) in Kingston, NH

[Low Lake Levels Prompt Change for Winnepesaukee Cruise Ship](#)

[Algae in Lake Water May Be More Common as Climate Changes](#)

[Urbanization: The Historical Cause of Low Oxygen Conditions in European Lakes](#)

## Upcoming Events

[NHACC Annual Conference](#)  
Saturday November 12, 2016  
Pembroke Academy  
Pembroke, NH 03275

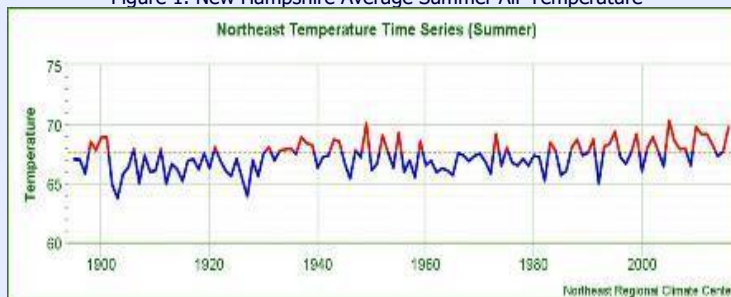
[Salmon Sunday](#)  
November 13, 2016  
12:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
Pope Dam in Melvin Village  
Tuftonboro, NH 03850

[Pondicherry National Wildlife Refuge](#)  
Thursday November 17, 2016  
The Loon Center  
Lees Mills Rd.

## VLAP Monthly Summary

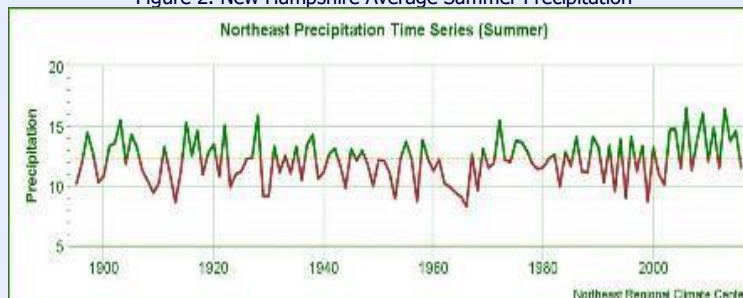
The 2016 VLAP sampling season came to a close on October 14th and we battled through a hot and extremely dry summer. The [Northeast Regional Climate Center](#) reports that average spring (Mar. – May) air temperatures were 1.5 degrees above average in Northern N.H. and 1.7 degrees above average in Southern N.H. Average summer (Jun. – Aug.) air temperatures (Figure 1) were 1.3 degrees above average in Northern N.H. and 1.7 degrees above average in Southern N.H. Specifically, air temperatures jumped to greater than 2.0 degrees above average in August and 3.0 degrees above average in September. This resulted in warmer water temperatures with filamentous algal growth and cyanobacteria blooms prevalent in late summer to early fall.

Figure 1. New Hampshire Average Summer Air Temperature



The above average air temperatures only worsened drought conditions for much of the southern and central portion of the state. Spring precipitation was 1.35 inches below average in Northern N.H. and 4.0 inches below average in Southern N.H. Summer precipitation (Figure 2) was 0.89 inches below average in Northern N.H. and 3.16 inches below average in Southern N.H. The lack of precipitation and moderate to severe drought in much of the state resulted in low lake levels and dry or extremely low flow tributary conditions. However, the lack of precipitation and associated stormwater runoff also resulted in above average water clarity for many lakes throughout the state.

Figure 2. New Hampshire Average Summer Precipitation



These conditions did not deter volunteer monitors from sampling and

Moultonborough, NH  
03254

## **Grants**

### [2017 Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grants](#)

Request for Proposals  
February 1, 2017

### [Love Your Lake!](#)

SOLitude Lake  
Management

**FREE** Lake Restoration for  
Non-Profits in Need

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## **Limno Lingo**

**Mougeotia:** A genus of unbranched filamentous green (Chlorophyta) algae common to freshwater systems worldwide. One of the three most common filamentous green algae seen in New Hampshire waters and is usually seen floating in masses in shallow water.

many braved the heat to collect lake samples and deliver them to the Jody Connor Limnology Center (JCLC) and Lake Sunapee Protective Association-Colby Sawyer College (LSPA-CSC) laboratories. August started off a little slower which gave the VLAP interns and JCLC staff a moment to recover from the hectic start to the summer. VLAP staff conducted a total of 32 biologist visits and volunteers sampled a total of 88 times on their own in August! VLAP interns Carina and Brooke were able to stay through the middle and end of the month which helped immensely in making sure biologist visits were complete and laboratory operations ran smoothly. The warm and dry weather held into September and October helping to keep the sampling season active. VLAP staff conducted four biologist visits in September and one in October, but volunteers were still quite busy conducting 28 sampling events on their own.

Thank you to all of our volunteers sampling water quality throughout the state. You continue to go above and beyond to collect valuable information helping us to better understand local and statewide water quality issues, as well as advance scientific research. You are truly an amazing group! I hope you all have time to relax and enjoy the beautiful fall weather on our lakes. Thank you for another successful monitoring season and I look forward to seeing you again in 2017!

## **2014 VLAP Regional Reports Available**

The long-awaited [2014 VLAP Regional Reports](#) have been finalized and are now available on the VLAP website as well as the [Lake Information Mapper](#). The regional reports group VLAP lakes into seven regions based upon previously established New Hampshire geographic regions combined with Level 8 Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUC). The regional reports were developed to assess water quality trends on a regional basis to assist with state-wide trend analyses and regional watershed management planning.

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